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ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING AND EVALUATION OF 26WA2033, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

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INTRODUCTION

AT&T Communications proposes to install a buried fiber optic cable in northern Nevada. In conjunction with that project, cultural resource inventories have been conducted along the proposed original and reroute alignments by Archaeological Research Services, Inc. (ARS). As a result of the inventories, archaeological site 26Wa2033 was located along the original proposed alignment (Hemphill 1988) and along an alternate route (Hemphill and Burke 1988). ARS recommended 26Wa2033 as eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) agreed with this position and conveyed its opinion to the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in a letter dated May 6, 1988. In a letter dated May 9, 1988, the SHPO concurred with the BLM that 26Wa2033 is eligible for the NRHP.

At the time of the consultation between the BLM and the SHPO, avoidance was considered feasible by AT&T. However, AT&T approached the BLM concerning the non-avoidance option; i.e., building the fiber optic line through the site instead of boring beneath the site or avoiding it by another reroute. BLM and SHPO consulted on this issue and decided that subsurface testing was appropriate to assess the effects of such proposed construction; BLM and SHPO agreed that four 1 x 1 m units should be excavated.

AT&T asked ARS to conduct the work requested by BLM and SHPO. ARS staff consulted with Mr. Brian Hatoff, archaeologist with the Carson City District, BLM, on June 15 and June 27, 1988, regarding the testing program. It was agreed that two of the four test units would be situated on the high bank above Whites Creek and that the other two units would be placed on the low bank adjacent to the creek. Excavation of each unit would be preceded by collection of surface artifacts in a 5 x 5 m area. BLM stipulated that excavation would cease at a depth of 50 cm below surface.

AREA DESCRIPTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

Site 26Wa2033 is located in southern Washoe County, Nevada, approximately 4.1 km (2.5 mi) east of the intersection of State Highway 431 and U.S. Highway 395. The site is situated immediately north of Steamboat Hills on an alluvial fan which emanates from the eastern slope of Mt. Rose. This alluvial fan is bisected by Whites Creek, a perennial stream, which flows in an east-northeast direction into Truckee Meadows (Figure 1).

The project area is situated entirely on private land, however site 26Wa2033 is located both on private and BLM land. The portion of the site to be affected by the proposed fiber optic cable line runs along the common section line of Section 30, T.18N R.20E and Section 25, T.18N R.19E (Figure 2).

The project area is situated in the Sagebrush or Upper Sonoran Zone of the Intermountain Region (Cronquist, Holmgren, Holmgren and Reveal 1972). Vegetation on the entire alluvial fan is sparse, dominated by Big Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) and xeric grasses. In disturbed areas, sparse stands of rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosus*) may be observed as well as isolated stands of Mormon tea (*Ephedra* spp.). Along the banks of Whites Creek can be found aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), willow (*Salix* spp.), alder (*Alnus* spp.), and wild rose (*Rosa* spp.).

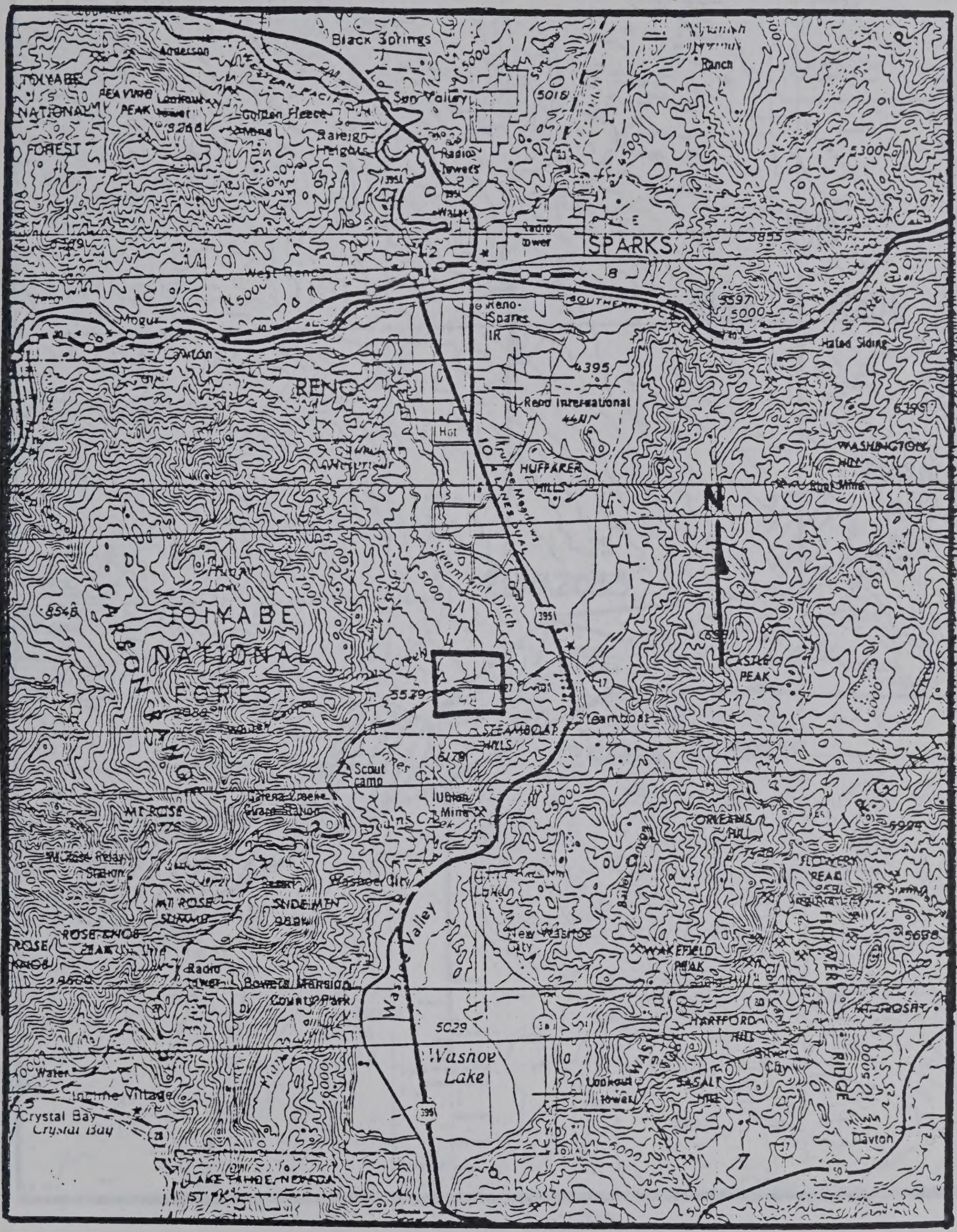

Figure 1. Project Area Map. Taken from AMS Reno, Nevada; California 1957, revised 1971, Scale: 1:250,000.

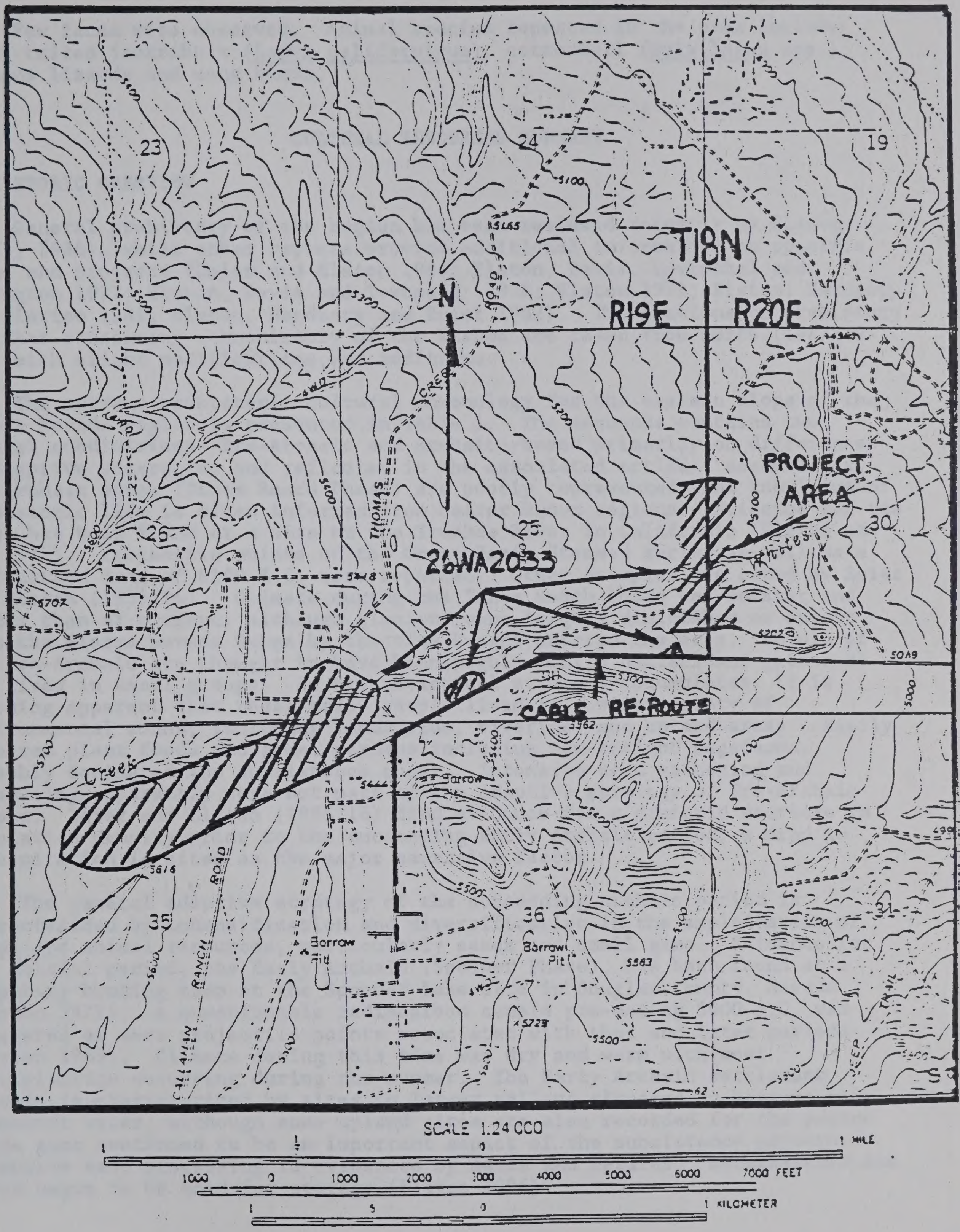

Figure 2. Site Location Map. Taken from Mt. Rose NE, Nevada 7.5' USGS map. Showing relationship of cable re-route to site 26WA2033.

Few fauna were observed. Animal species reported in the area include black-tailed jackrabbit (Lepus californicus), cottontail (Sylvilagus spp.), various lizards and song birds.

CULTURAL RESOURCES SUMMARY

PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

General prehistory of the region has been reviewed recently by Elston (1982, 1986), while other reports provide additional information on specific sites and projects (Zeier and Elston 1986; Elston, Davis, Leventhal and Covington 1977; Elston, Davis and Townsend 1976; Elston 1971; Elston, Hardesty and Clerico 1981; Elston, Hardesty and Zeier 1982). The sections on prehistory and that concerning ethnohistory of the Washoe are taken from Burke (1987a:9-14), with slight modifications and additions.

The current prehistoric cultural chronology for the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada region is presented in Table 1. The sequence contains two general subdivisions--Pre-Archaic and Archaic--based primarily on differences in adaptive strategies and reflected in the associated artifact assemblages. Pre-Archaic sites (Tahoe Reach Phase) are poorly represented, and knowledge of prehistoric life is often inferred from better known regions. Evidence for the phase has been found at a site on the Truckee River in California (Elston et al. 1977). Projectile points of the Great Basin Stemmed series as well as a radiocarbon date of 6180 B.C. were reported. Other examples are cited by Zeier and Elston (1986:16). Climate during the Tahoe Reach Phase was moister and cooler than at present, although glaciers were largely diminished or absent from the Sierra Nevada Range by the time humans entered the area. People of the Pre-Archaic are thought to have been highly mobile hunters and gatherers who lived in small groups. As archaeological evidence accumulates, it is becoming apparent that these early people lived in a wide variety of environmental zones, including lacustrine, riverine, and upland areas. Easily gathered plant foods and game, perhaps including now-extinct megafauna, probably dominated the subsistence quest. Intensive seed gathering and processing apparently were not part of the adaptive strategy of Pre-Archaic people. Zeier and Elston (1986:16) find evidence for a dramatic decrease in population density prior to the succeeding Early Archaic period; a drop in precipitation is cited as the major causative factor.

The general adaptive strategy of the succeeding Archaic period is characterized by intensification and diversification in the exploitation of plant and animal resources, particularly seeds and small game. Evidence for the initial period, the Early Archaic (Spooner Phase), has been found at a temporary hunting camp at the Spooner Lake site in Douglas County, Nevada (Elston 1971). A questionable radiocarbon sample pre-dating 5000 B.C. was recovered as were projectile points associated with that and later periods (Elston 1986). Climate during this time was dry and warm with most precipitation occurring during the summer. The Early Archaic settlement pattern is characterized by sites in larger valleys situated on bottoms near permanent water, although some upland sites are also recorded for the period. Large game continued to be an important aspect of the subsistence pattern. Intensive seed processing is evidenced by manos and metates. Rockshelters and caves began to be used for storage (Elston 1986).

Table 1. Cultural Chronology for the Eastern Sierra Front.*

Adaptive Strategy	Phase	Characteristics	Age
Late Archaic	Washoe-Late Kings Beach	Desert series and Cottonwood series points, chert raw materials, flake and other small tools, shallow saucer-shaped house pits	A.D. 1150-A.D. 1850
	Early Kings Beach	Rosegate and Gunther series points, chert raw materials, flake and other small tools, shallow saucer-shaped house pits	A.D. 450-A.D. 1150
Middle Archaic	Late Martis	Martis and Elko series points, large side-notched points, basalt tools, steep-sided house pits	550 B.C.-A.D. 450
	Middle Martis	Steamboat points, Elko and Martis series points, large basalt bifaces and other basalt tools, steep-sided house pits	1550 B.C.-550 B.C.
	Early Martis	Contracting stem points of Elko and Martis series, large basalt bifaces and other basalt tools, steep-sided house pits	2050 B.C.-1550 B.C
Early Archaic	Spooner	Pinto and Humboldt series points, light colored basalt artifacts	5050 B.C.-2050 B.C.
Pre-Archaic	Tahoe Reach	Great Basin Stemmed series points	Prior to 5050 B.C.

*Adapted from Zeier and Elston (1986:17)

The succeeding Middle Archaic period (Martis Phase) is considerably better known than preceding phases because of the abundance and variety of sites that have been investigated. A period of neoglacial or neopluvial environment prevailed with moister and cooler conditions (Elston 1986). Zeier and Elston (1986:377-378) have most recently characterized the Martis settlement pattern as "open dispersed." Winter sedentism became common in areas of high population density, accompanied by mobile foraging during warmer months of the year (Zeier and Elston 1986:18). They suggest that population density was relatively low, and that people moved readily from one camp to another to take advantage of abundant food and other resources in numerous optimal locations.

The Martis Phase settlement pattern involved residential base camps on valley margins adjacent to a broad array of natural resources, although hot springs were favored locations (Elston 1986:143). The highest density of such sites is in the southern Truckee Meadows, especially near the Steamboat Hot Springs approximately 2.0 km (1.2 mi) east of 26Wa2033. Remains of Martis phase pit houses and conical structures have been excavated in such camps. More temporary occupations were made at Martis field camps. Lithic resource areas were intensively exploited; basalt and sinter were favored materials, although obsidian was also used. Seed-processing camps were located on valley margins near springs and creeks with more limited resources than found around residential base camps. Meadow margins in upland valleys of the Sierra Nevada mountains were favored for multi-purpose camps involving seed processing and hunting (Elston 1986:143). Elston (1986:143) notes some evidence of "intensive" use of the rugged and mountainous terrain of the Sierra Nevadas during early and middle Martis times, but much less such evidence thereafter.

Archaeological evidence for the Late Archaic (Kings Beach Phase-Washoe) is also abundant and suggests increasing stress within the adaptive strategy, probably as a result of increased population size, increased population density, or both (Elston 1982, 1986; Zeier and Elston 1986). For the Early Kings Beach Phase, Zeier and Elston define an "interspersed" settlement pattern wherein old optimal locations continued to be used as new winter camp sites were established at less desireable locations. As during the preceding Martis phase, these camps may have been sequentially occupied, but for different reasons due to adaptive stress associated with the postulated increase in population density and perhaps population size: "In contrast to Martis times then, the basis for moving the winter site and sequential occupation was not dictated by where conditions were best, but by where sustained occupation was possible ..." (Zeier and Elston 1986:378). Abandonment of a residential base camp of the Early Kings Beach phase may have resulted from exhaustion of essential local resources. A possible indication of more limited mobility is the increasing use of locally available cryptocrystalline silicates (cherts) in lieu of the previously preferred basalt and sinter raw materials. Lower ranked resources, especially plant foods and rabbits, were exploited intensively during this time. The pinyon nut became a dietary staple, particularly as a storable commodity providing food through the winter. Fish were likewise another important protein source. Sites of the Kings Beach Phase are attributed to the ancestral Washoe.

Environment during the succeeding Late Kings Beach Phase was much like that of the present, although a dryer, warmer spell occurred between A.D. 1-500 (Elston 1986). The settlement pattern for this time is described as "packed" with apparently all winter camps being occupied simultaneously (Zeier and Elston 1986:378-379). Most large sites of the preceding Martis Phase and Early

Kings Beach Phase were reoccupied during this time. Extremely low residential mobility apparently prevailed during the winter certainly and perhaps year round. Such a pattern is supported by the ethnographic record for the Washoe, according to Zeier and Elston (1986).

ETHNOGRAPHIC OVERVIEW

Site 26Wa2033 is situated within territory occupied by the Washoe prior to the entry of Euro-American explorers, trappers and emigrants. This territory straddled the boundary between the arid Great Basin to the east and the verdant Sierra Nevada to the west. Early in the nineteenth century, the Washoe homeland extended from the southern rim of Honey Lake in California southward to the West Walker River and from the the Sierra Nevada eastward to the Pine Nut Mountains and Virginia Range (d'Azevedo 1986:Fig. 1; Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada 1976:3). This "core" area, centered around Lake Tahoe, encompassed about 4000 sq mi but was buffered by a wider territorial range exceeding 10,000 sq mi. This buffer zone was exploited jointly by the Washoe and neighboring Native American groups (d'Azevedo 1986:468).

The Washoe speak a Hokan dialect. They are surrounded by Numic speakers to the east (the Northern Paiute) and various Penutian speakers to the west. According to Jacobsen (1986:107), the Washoe language is not clearly related to any other language. Further, analysis of the language does not offer any guidance regarding the origins of the Washoe people or their tenure in the area described above; however, Jacobsen (1986:107) favors the assumption that the Washoe have been in this area for a long period of time.

Both Downs (1966) and d'Azevedo (1986) emphasize the mobile lifestyle of the Washoe and the fluidity of their social organization. The extended family was the basic economic unit, but even non-relatives joined the group. The variable conditions of Washoe social organization are interpreted by Downs as effective means of coping with seasonality, variability and abundance during the food quest.

Winter was spent in a residential base camp situated at preferred locations along the margins of low valleys east of the Sierras. Here the group was close to stored food supplies, water, firewood and other needed resources. Houses were constructed and re-used annually.

Group mobility began in the early spring when young men and women moved from the residential base camps in the valleys to Lake Tahoe to fish for whitefish. The few available plant foods (mostly shoots and tubers) supplemented the fish, as well as an occasional game animal or the remainder of stored foods. By late spring or very early summer, virtually all the Washoe would be congregated around Lake Tahoe. This was a highly social time, although the food quest remained at the center of activities as diminishing winter supplies were being replaced with fresh, abundant foods. Spawning fish, particularly suckers and native trout, provided bountiful food at this time. As was true of essentially all Washoe subsistence activities, food procurement provided for both immediate consumption and for storage. Some fish was consumed immediately while much was air-dried (Downs 1966); however, it preserved well only in the cooler air around the mountain lake and did not contribute to the supply of food stored for winter.

The congregation of Washoe families would begin to subside later in summer as spawning fish decreased in numbers. Family groups moved into higher mountains around Lake Tahoe to continue fishing, to gather among the increasingly plentiful plant foods such as seeds, berries, roots, and leaves and to hunt. Downs (1966:15) states: "The high mountain camps are still identifiable because of the presence of granite boulders pockmarked with bedrock mortars, or lam, where the Washo [sic] women sat during the day to grind seeds or berries or to pulverize dried fish eggs." Among particular resources gathered in highland areas were turnips, wild potatoes, rhubarb, native sunflower in high meadows and various parts of the cattail found in damp meadows.

Gathering of plant foods intensified as summer lengthened into early fall. The valleys on the east side of the Sierra Nevada were favored places for such activities (Downs 1966:19); this period initiated the eastward movement of the Washoe that would eventually return them to their winter camps. Compared to fish, the plant foods generally were widely dispersed and were harvested most economically by family groups or individuals from such groups. Further, the plant resources could be highly variable in their productivity and limited to a few days or weeks when appropriately ripe. During the summer and in warm parts of the fall the Washoe families would construct a temporary windbreak for shelter or else provide no shelter at all. Gathering ended in the fall and was capped by intensive harvesting of the pinyon seed. This was also a time when the Washoe would assemble for socializing at festivals near the pinyon areas. Communal drives for rabbit were conducted with the meat being consumed immediately and dried for winter consumption. Communal antelope hunts were sometimes conducted in the fall. In preparation for re-establishing residence in the winter camps, food supplies (particularly pinyon and other seeds) and firewood were moved to readily accessible locations.

Men would intensify their hunting during the late summer, through the fall and on into winter. Deer and bighorn sheep were taken in the upland areas by stalking, simple encounters or drives. Like plant gathering and fishing, hunting would be conducted on a year round basis by individuals as opportunity provided and weather allowed.

The traditional Washoe lifestyle was severely disrupted in the late 1850s as the rush to the Comstock began. Pinyon trees were cut to serve the needs of residents and the mines, other forests were similarly destroyed, grasses and their seeds were trampled or eaten by livestock, water supplies were diverted or made inaccessible, and the Washoe people were subjected to segregation, denial of civil rights and U.S. citizenship, imposition of external social values and structures and denial of native beliefs and rituals (Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada 1976; d'Azevedo 1986:493-497). Many Washoe gravitated to farms, ranches and towns to survive. It was not until 1917 that any governmental efforts were made to restore some lands to the Washoe (Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada 1976:479). By the mid-1930s, a tribal government was formed with Washoe colonies established in several parts of the traditional homeland.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE TRUCKEE MEADOWS

This discussion of previous archaeological investigations is taken from Burke and Clay (1988:11-14). Cultural resources inventories conducted in the Truckee Meadows area generally indicate abundant and diverse prehistoric

archaeological remains (cf. Elston and Turner 1968; Pendleton, McLane and Thomas 1982). Limited archaeological testing has occurred at some of these locations, while intensive excavation has been rare. As noted by Pendleton et al. (1982:81), much of this study has been generated by demands of urban development rather than an as a result of integrated and systematic approaches to prehistory of the area.

Elston and Turner initiated a survey of selected areas to find sites most likely to contain evidence of "...long-term, intensive occupation and activity sites with deep deposits. These areas were around the hot springs at Steamboat, and in the lower, more sheltered portions of the Truckee Meadows proper" (1968:2). However, other site types were also considered. One distinctive site is a large sinter quarry (26Wa1413) in the Steamboat Hills approximately 2.0 km (1.2 mi) east of site 26Wa2033. The sinter was exploited intensively as was native basalt from 26Wa1496, immediately west of 26Wa1413 (Burke 1987b).

Aside from the quarry areas, a number of probable winter village sites were located along Steamboat Creek in the southern end of Elston and Turner's survey area. Two sites in this area (26Wa1416 and 26Wa1435) were excavated and found to have subsurface remains (Elston and Davis 1972). A midden deposit was found at 26Wa1435 containing projectile points (mostly the Martis type) and knives, quarry blanks, awls, scrapers, bone tools, ground stone and charcoal fragments. Steamboat sinter was used almost exclusively as the raw material for tool manufacture. Elston and Davis (1972:11) suggest some of their excavations were in a house pit, although other features such as hearths apparently were also found. Two radiocarbon samples produced dates of 1530 B.C. and A.D. 1620. Midden was also found at 26Wa1416 and contained artifacts from the Martis and Kings Beach phases. A human burial and cache pits were located as were ground stone tools. Subsequent excavations identified Kings Beach and historic Washoe components at 26Wa1435 in addition to a house pit, basin-shaped hearths and deep conical cache pits (in Pendleton et al. 1982:81).

Much more intensive excavations occurred at the Glendale site (26Wa2065) located on a terrace of the Truckee River (Miller and Elston 1979). Diagnostic artifacts ranging in age from the Spooner Phase to the Late Kings Beach Phase were recovered, in addition to post-Washoe historic remains. A wide variety of artifactual types was represented including ground stone (mortars, pestles, metates, manos), cores, choppers, hammerstones, flake tools, bifaces, bone awls and faunal remains, among others. Steamboat sinter was the overwhelming material of choice (83 percent by count, 66 percent by weight) with basalt a secondary choice (21 percent by weight) and other materials scarce. Sinter was preferred for most implements; basalt was reserved for larger, heavier tools. Lithic debitage consisted largely of remains from late stage manufacture and repair.

Faunal remains included mammalian forms, birds, fish and reptiles. Lagomorphs comprised sixty percent of all mammals by count of minimum numbers of individuals (mni) represented (Dansie 1979). Artiodactyls comprised but 6.6 percent (mni) of mammals, although their percentages were much higher (nearly 21 percent) by total volume. Fish, carnivores and small birds were very minor components of the total volume. All bones were highly fragmented as a result of intensive processing to maximize nutrient return.

Site 26Wa2065 also contained abundant subsurface features including charcoal lenses (most likely cooking hearths); charcoal concentrations with associated artifacts, especially ground stone; scattered and concentrated rock features; and pits. Small pit features (less than 15 cm diameter) were interpreted as postholes. Medium-sized pits (30 cm to just over 1 m diameter) were most abundant and were interpreted as storage and cache pits as well as cooking hearths. Large pits (3 to 5 m diameter) were interpreted as house pits and were generally rather shallow, round to slightly elongate in outline and saucer-like in cross-section. Charcoal samples recovered from feature and other fill provided two radiocarbon dates of 780 A.D. and one of 870 A.D.

Miller and Elston (1979:322) conclude that archaeological evidence confirmed their expectations that 26Wa2065 was the site of a winter village given the ethnohistoric analog of location, the presence of house and storage pits, cooking and food preparation facilities, a predominance of manufacturing and repair debitage, and diversity of tool types. Dwellings were probably occupied by a small group, most likely an extended family comprising perhaps seven persons. Evidence for a strong dietary dependence on fish was lacking in the archaeological remains.

The Vista site (26Wa3017), located in the eastern Truckee Meadows in the Truckee River Valley, was also the scene of large scale excavations. Zeier and Elston (1986) report diagnostic projectile points including one example of the Great Basin Stemmed series, Martis, Rosegate (most abundant), Gunther and Cottonwood series. Other artifact types include other bifacial tools, hammerstone-choppers, casual flake tools, ground stone, faunal remains and bone tools, as well as dog burials and various features. In the largest sample of lithic raw materials (i.e., debitage), chert was most abundant (61.2 percent by count), sinter was second most common (20.1 per cent), and basalt and obsidian were in approximately equal amounts (about 9 percent each). Debitage analysis indicates most obsidian tools came to the site in finished form, while tools made using other raw materials originally were brought to the Vista site in much rougher form, probably as flake blanks or early stage bifaces.

The faunal assemblage at Vista was dominated numerically by lagomorphs; intensive reduction of the axial skeleton is clearly evident given the abundance of smashed bones and overall paucity of ribs and vertebrae. Artiodactyls were present in the assemblage but not abundant, while fish remains were fairly common, either as a result of excellent preservation or cultural emphasis, compared with the Glendale site. Coyote bones and two domestic dog burials were recovered at Vista, as were canid scat remains (n=32); some coyote remains had cut marks suggesting their use as a food item.

The array of subsurface features at the Vista site was similar to that observed at Glendale. At the former, these were classified into bone, rock, ground stone or pit features. Very small pits associated with houses were classified as postholes. Small pits measured less than 0.5 m in diameter and may represent the truncated bottoms of larger pits. Medium-sized pit features (0.5 to 1.35 m maximum diameter) with bone, others associated with rock, and pits filled with charcoal or other burned remains (especially conical-shaped) were classifiable as hearths or ovens. Steep-sided pits may have served as caches. Intermediate-sized oval depressions (1.3 x 1.6 m average dimensions) were classified either as ovens/hearths, temporary structures or specialized

activity areas depending on the artifactual contents. Six large, shallow depressions, measuring 3.0 to 5.5 m in diameter, were found at Vista and are interpreted as housepits.

The Vista site was a winter village location during its later occupation phases, according to Zeier and Elston. Placement of such villages was limited by the availability of water and food, the presence of suitably flat ground, a southern exposure and relatively dry, well-drained soil. A winter village comprised "cells" of household units. Based on comparative evidence, specifically analogies with hunter-gatherers and ethnographic descriptions of the Washoe, a series of activity areas around a typical winter house have been proposed (Zeier 1986). From the center outward, these include (1) the inside of the house where people slept, stored food and goods and maintained a warming fire; (2) a perimeter surrounding the house where cooking, eating and tool manufacture would occur; (3) a refuse disposal area; and (4) special activity areas such as bedrock mortar locations and places reserved for defecation.

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS

An archaeological inventory such as conducted by Hemphill (1988) and Hemphill and Burke (1988) provides information on site location, artifactual variety, and possibly, on the potential for subsurface deposits or buried features. In the case of 26Wa2033, there proved to be a record of observation strongly supporting the presence of buried cultural remains. Areas with high concentrations of lithic debitage and clusters of partially buried ground stone were observed that may be indicative of subsurface archaeological features.

Such limited information is useful for research into topics such as site settlement pattern analysis; however, many research questions in Great Basin and Sierran archaeology require additional information. For example, more strict provenience control during surface examinations may permit identification and definition of activity areas. Further, some extremely valuable data categories normally cannot be expected to be preserved in surface settings or may not be reliable if found in such a context. The level of investigation reported here is designed to determine whether surface or subsurface data exist which can contribute to significant research questions. The nature of the "significant questions" ultimately depends on what information the site is found to contain and how it may contribute demonstrably to the resolution of the questions.

For site 26Wa2033, the basic research design was developed during consultations between the BLM Carson City District Office and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, namely that four 1 x 1 m test units would be excavated. ARS, in consultation with the BLM, decided to place two of these test units on the stream terrace adjacent to Whites Creek and one test unit on the high bank on either side of Whites Creek Canyon and to include limited surface collection within the research design. Hence, the research design of this project was oriented to establishing whether buried cultural features or deposits which might hold important information about ancient climates, prehistoric diet, chronology, or a number of other topics, exist on this portion of the site. Data from the surface and subsurface examinations would then be considered in the context of specific research questions applicable to the area and approachable using data categories demonstrated to be present at the site.

The main emphasis of the research design of this project was focused on subsurface deposits because, while surface features were identified in previous examinations of 26Wa2033, none were found along the present project corridor. This condition enabled this investigation to focus its main attention on the vertical distribution of artifacts rather than on the surface distribution.

FIELD METHODS

Archaeological investigations at 26Wa2033 focused on (1) the nature and distribution of surface artifacts and (2) the presence, nature and distribution of subsurface archaeological remains. The fieldwork was comprised of three parts. The first was the placement of four 5 x 5 m surface collection units (Figure 3). All of the collection units were oriented to true north. These units were systematically searched, with the exception of the central 1 x 1 m square, and all artifacts found were collected.

The center 1 x 1 m square in each of the four surface collection units was located and these functioned as the test excavation units. All test units were placed in the proposed AT&T right-of-way. Thus, the second part of the investigation consisted of the excavation of these center units. Each was surface collected independently of the original 5 x 5 m surface collection unit before excavation commenced. Excavation proceeded using shovel, trowel, pick, whisk broom and dust pan. Units were excavated in 10 cm levels and all sediments removed were screened through 1/4 inch mesh. The provenience of all recovered artifacts and organic remains was recorded by unit and level. Any artifact found in situ was plotted on unit maps and its elevation recorded relative to the unit datum which, in all cases, was the southwest corner of the unit. A separate reference number was assigned to each unit level and recorded to facilitate tracking of individual artifacts and level bags. Charcoal was collected from the screen and bagged separately as a contingency against finding in sufficient carbon in situ for radiometric dating of the site.

All test units were originally to have been excavated to a depth of 50 cm; however, in consultation with Mr. Brian Hatoff, archaeologist with the Carson City District, BLM, it was decided to excavate Units 2 and 3 until two consecutive culturally sterile levels were reached. This was done to determine the vertical extent of cultural remains since artifacts were still being found in moderate quantities at the 50 cm depth in both Unit 2 and Unit 3.

The third portion of the investigation consisted of placing three auger holes due west of Unit 3. These auger holes were placed at 5 m intervals from the southwest corner of Unit 3. Augering consisted of rotating the auger until its bucket was filled. It was then removed from the hole and its contents screened through 1/4 inch mesh. Any artifacts recovered were recorded as to the depth between the previous bucket and the last. All auger holes reached a depth of at least 100 cm below the surface.

LAB METHODS

Upon completion of testing at site 26Wa2033, all materials were transported to the ARS laboratory. Materials were checked into the lab by reference number and prepared for cataloging. Lithics were washed and air dried; bone was brushed and charcoal was weighed and packaged separately by unit and level. The metate fragments from Unit 1 were fire affected, apparently causing decomposition of the rock surface including portions of the

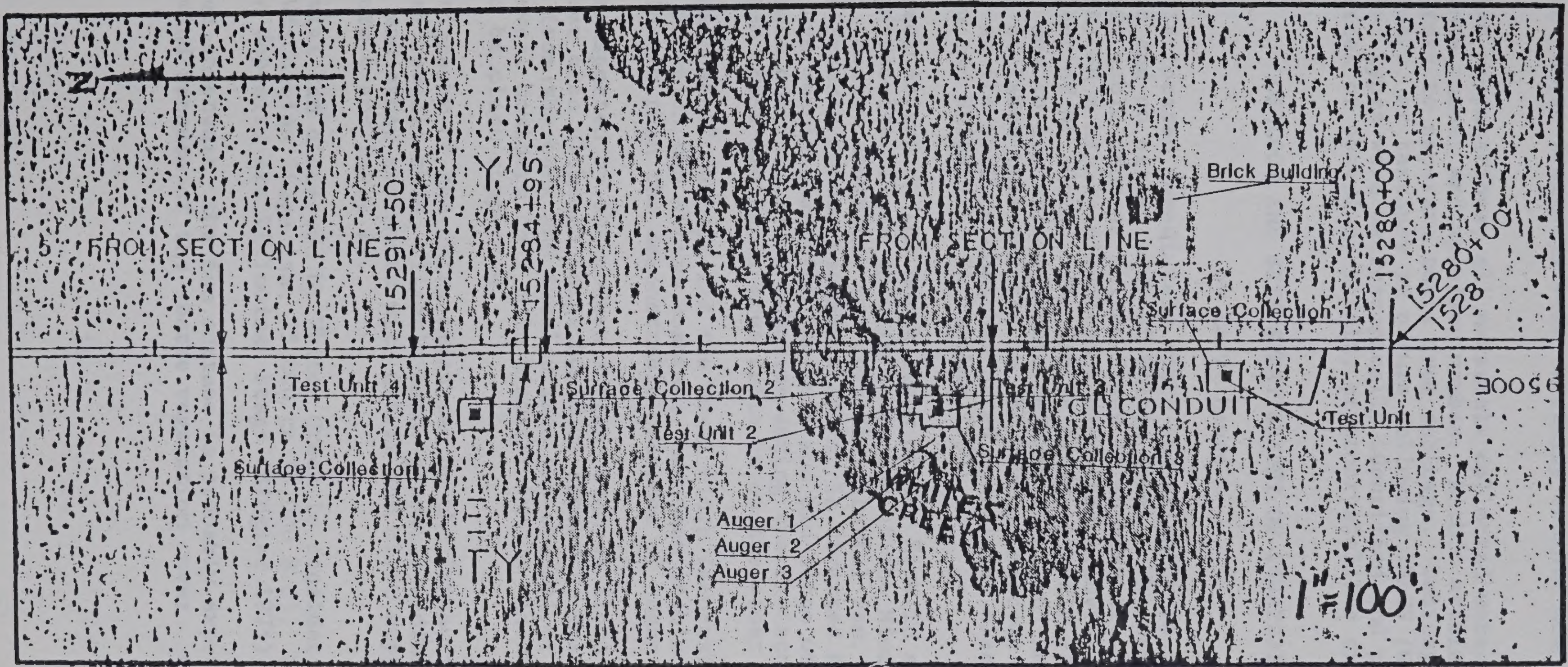

Figure 3. Site Location Map. Showing placement of test units, surface collection units and auger holes.

worked surface. These fragments were carefully brushed and individually wrapped.

After these preparations, all materials collected were cataloged by site number, reference number and specimen number. Lithic artifacts were uvsually inspected in order to separate tools from debitage. Debitage was identified as primary, secondary, or tertiary in nature following IMACS (University of Utah 1987). Material types were macroscopically identified and placed into the general categories of obsidian, basalt, cryptocrystalline silica, and sinter.

GEOLOGY AND SITE STRATIGRAPHY OF 26Wa2033

by Larry Hause

The site is located immediately north and slightly to the east of Steamboat Hills and on either side of Whites Creek. The proposed route for the AT&T fiber optic cable crosses Whites Creek at an elevation of approximately 5110 m (1558 ft) on a highly dissected and faulted alluvial fan emanating from the eastern flank of Mt. Rose. The fan is dated at early Pleistocene or pre-Lake Lahontan due to its stratigraphic relationship with Lahontan-age pluvial lake sediments of lakes that existed in the Truckee Meadows and the development of mature soil at its surface that has dated correlates elsewhere in the Great Basin (Thompson and White 1964:24; Bonham 1969).

Whites Creek arises on the north flank of Mt. Rose in a terrane of Cretaceous granodiorite, flows through a terrane of the Miocene/Pliocene Kate Peak Formation (mostly andesite) and cuts the alluvial fan. It eventually sinks into the Truckee Meadow sediments and/or is diverted for agricultural purposes. It has deeply dissected the head and mid-slope of the fan and has not likely left these confines since sometime during the Pleistocene. The canyon to modern stream cross-sectional area ratio is on the order of 1000:1.

The stream channel, except for the small width (approximately 20 m) on the canyon bottom in which the stream meanders, has been stable for a period considerably longer than the demonstrable presence of human beings in the area.

Clasts transported by the modern stream, even at flood stage, are cobble to small boulder size although large boulders appear in the stream bed. These either eroded from the bank and tumbled into the channel or are in situ. The fan gravels reveal boulders to 2 m in diameter in the vicinity of the site and some appear to be clast supported.

The stratigraphy of the units excavated on the fan surface on either side of Whites Creek reveals thin, slightly hard, gravelly sediments overlying hard cemented grus and other sediments with matrix and clast supported cobbles and boulders (Figure 4 and Table 2).

The alluvial fan dissected by Whites Creek is considered to be of Tahoe age or early Wisconsian Stage (ca. 75,000 to 35,000 B.P). North of Whites Creek, the fan deposits are Illinoisan Stage (Bingler 1975).

Except for sheetwash, the fan surface is probably experiencing net deflation by wind because of the sparse vegetation cover. Cultural material at

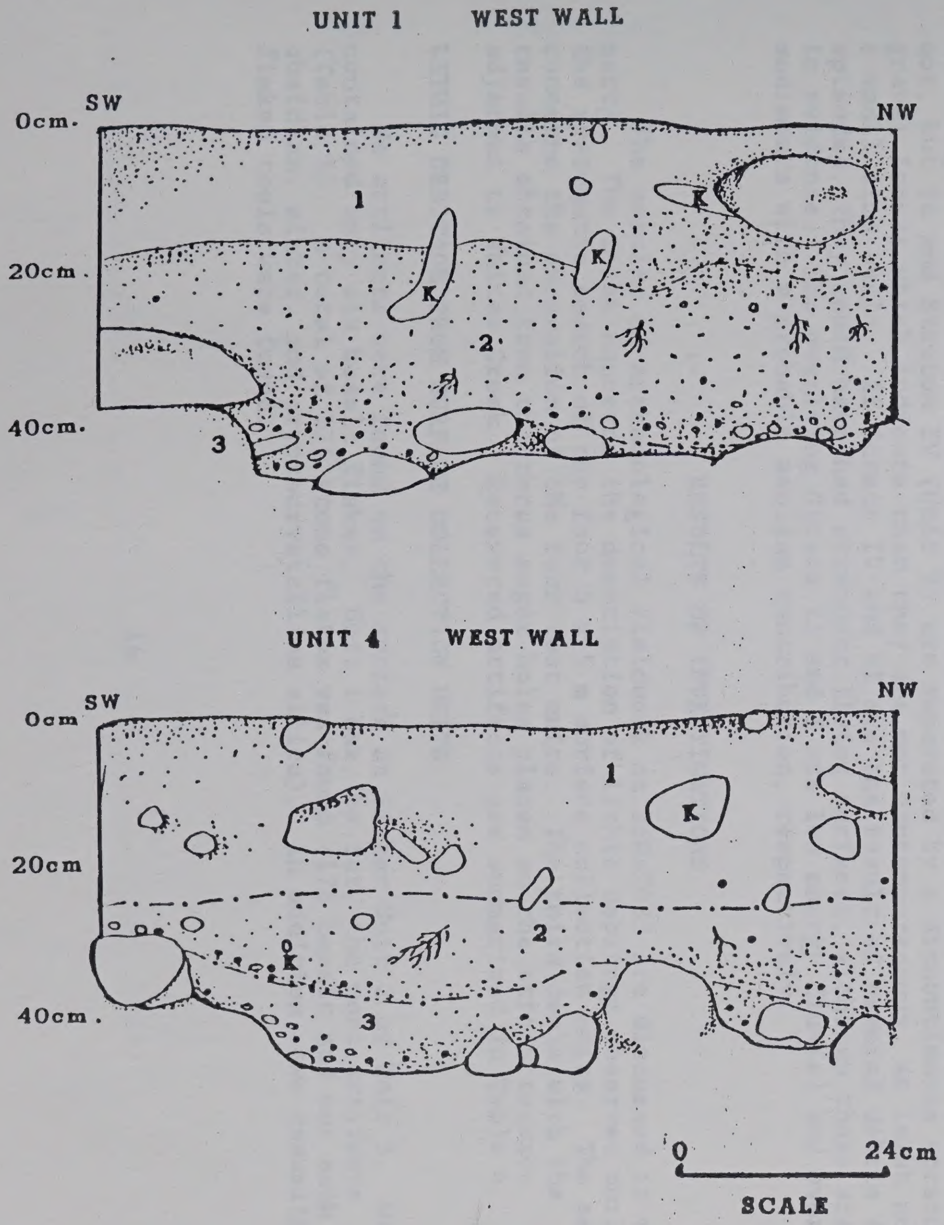

Figure 4. Profiles and strata descriptions of Units 1 & 4.

Table 2. Units 1 & 4 strata Descriptions

Surface	10YR4.5/2(D), Grayish brown to dark grayish brown; very poorly sorted sorted silt to granule matrix with ca. 5% exposed granules to boulder size; larger clasts are subangular to subrounded and primarily granitic. Gravels to cobble size are lag deposits and boulders are probably clast supported.
I	20YR4/2(D), Dark grayish brown; poorly sorted silt to coarse sand with trace of gravels to 25 cm max. dia.* (see profile) fine sand mode; soft grading downward to slightly hard; massive; krotovina, roots, rootlets; lower contact smooth to wavy and abrupt to clear; soil 01 and 02 horizons. *Boulders in other walls of unit.
II	10YR5/3(D), Brown and mottles with light colored felsics (mica, quartz, feldspar); very poorly sorted, slay to pebbles, coarse silt mode(?), negatively skewed; hard; massive; krotovina, rootlets; lower contact clear to gradual; in situ weathering of stream rounded gravels. Probably contributes to the majority of the matrix material (grussy patches are localized) with the rest due to aeolian or fluvial infull.
III	Matrix is same color as II; very poorly sorted clay to boulders, stratum of clast supported subrounded to rounded cobbles and boulders; matrix is hard to very hard and massive; lower contact not exposed.

depth may have been transported by bioturbation, although localized topographic lows and wind shadows may have trapped the larger wind-blown clasts.

Aeolian and fluvial agents operate in the canyon bottom. The bottom's moisture, dense vegetation, and lack of exposure provide for an aeolian debris trap, so, an aeolian contribution of unknown proportion is inferred. The fluvial sediments range from massive (homogeneous) gravelly loams to well sorted sands to stream bed gravels (Figure 5 and Table 3).

The lowest strata exposed (VIII, Unit 2 and IX, Unit 3) have similar textural characters and are both massive and likely correlate over the 2 m meter unit separation. Stratum VII (Unit 3) is a relic stream bed on the opposite side of the canyon from the present one. Stratum VII appears to pinch out to the north and is not found in Unit 2. It lightens in color and improves in sorting upward and possibly could have been subdivided, but for the nearly imperceptible gradation. The scarcity of gravel suggests overbank deposits. Stratum VIIIa is the edge of a stream channel similar to VIIb, one indicating less stream competence or that of an auxillary channel. Stratum VII may owe the darkening of its lower portion to water percolating through the charcoal stained Stratum IV overlying it.

The IIa/VII contact is likely uncomformable due to the stream channel deposits in IIa and the pristine nature of IIa/IV/VII contact. Strata IV and VII must have been thicker for the fine detail of the contact to have been preserved. Stratum IV (correlates with Strata IV and VI, Unit 2) is a dark grayish brown, massive, poorly sorted gravelly sandy loam containing abundant charcoal, preserved wood and bone. Its homogeneity suggests a debris flow or flows and its color and charcoal abundance indicate fire somewhere upstream. An extensive fire would render the upstream hill slopes unstable and allow the easy transportation downstream of sediments and other debris by a flood stage discharge. It is not known whether Stratum VI represents only one event or not, but it and Stratum IV (Unit 2) are separated by a discontinuous stratum of gravel lenses which indicate that they are not contemporaneous, at least not on a small time scale. If Strata IV and VI are the result of several debris flow episodes, they could have had attendant living surfaces, although these are not in evidence. The overlying Strata II and I are low energy fluvial and overbank sediments with a probable aeolian contribution, respectively.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS

The results of archaeological fieldwork at 26Wa2033 are discussed in three parts. The first concerns the description of lithic debitage observed during the systematic search of the four 5 x 5 m surface collection units. The second concerns the excavation of the four test units. The third deals with the results obtained from the three auger holes placed on the stream terrace adjacent to Whites Creek. Recovered artifacts are summarized in Table 4.

LITHIC DEBITAGE FROM SURFACE COLLECTION UNITS

No artifacts were found on the surface at either Unit 2 or Unit 3. Unit 4 contained only six basalt flakes. Unit 1 has, by far, the most artifacts (Table 5). A total of 176 stone flakes was found (173 basalt and one each of obsidian, sinter, and cryptocrystalline silica). In addition, two casually flaked tools were found.

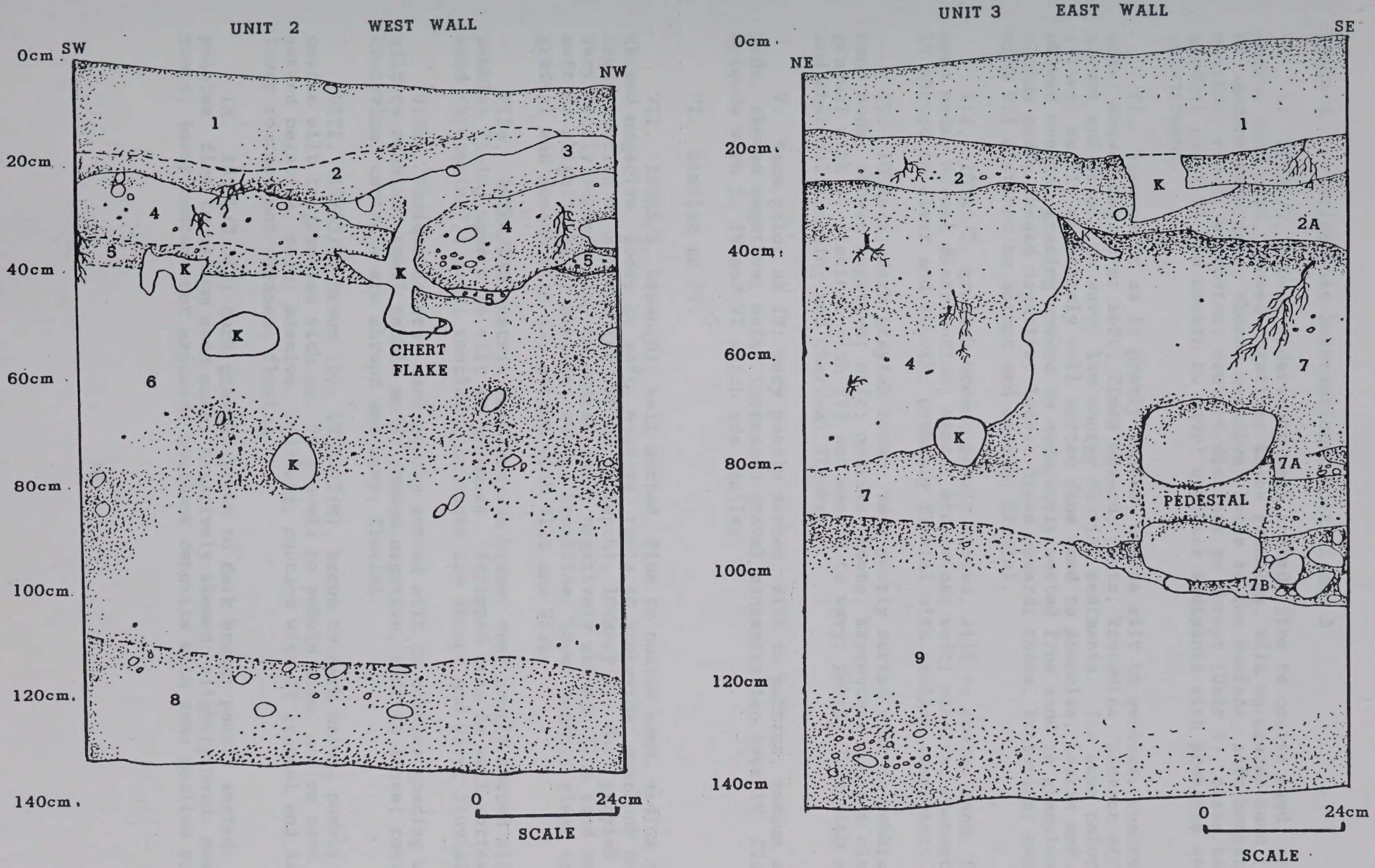

Figure 5. Stratigraphy of Test Units 2 & 3, 26Wa2033.

Table 3. Stratigraphic Descriptions, Units 2 and 3

I. 10YR5/3, brown; moderately well sorted, fine to coarse sand, medium to coarse sand mode, skewed negative; trace granules, silt to coarse sand (Unit 2), medium sand mode, skewed negative; loose at the surface, soft beneath; massive; roots, krotovina; contact distinct to abrupt (Unit 3), clear to gradual (Unit 2) and smooth to wavy; overbank sediments with probable aeolian constituent.

II. Same color as I; poorly sorted, coarse silt to pebbles; coarse sand mode; skewed negative; soft; fines upward; roots, krotovina; contact with IV abrupt and smooth to wavy; low energy fluvial sediments. IIa same color (fines) as II; moderately well sorted fine sand to granules, coarse and mode, skewed coarse, grading upward to moderately sorted fine sand to granules, medium mode, skewed negative; loose; fines upward; roots, krotovina; contact with VII distinct to abrupt and smooth; fluvial.

III. 10YR5/2, grayish brown; poorly sorted, silt to coarse sand, fine sand mode; normal distribution; roots, krotovina; soft; massive; contact with IV abrupt to clear and smooth; probably fluvial with aeolian component.

IV. 10YR4/2, dark grayish brown; very poorly sorted silt to pebbles, fine sand mode, skewed negative; soft; massive; roots, krotovina; contact clear to gradual with V, distinct with VII and smooth to wavy; debris flow with organic and charcoal staining and charcoal flecks.

V. Same color as IV; very poorly sorted, silt to pebbles, medium sand mode, skewed negative; soft; increased gravel concentration over IV; fluvial episode with I, IV and VI which are similar.

VI. Similar to IV.

VII. 10YR5/3, brown(D); well sorted, fine to coarse sand, medium mode; skewed negative; loose to soft; massive; roots to krotovina; overbank deposits. Lower portion of stratum (ca. 80 cm in depth), 10YR4/2(D), dark grayish brown; very poorly sorted, clay to coarse sand, negatively skewed, fine sand mode; soft to slightly hard; massive; roots; krotivina; lower contact clear to gradual and smooth with IX, abrupt with VIIa and VIIb.

VIIa. 10YR4/2(D) matrix dark grayish brown; very poorly sorted silt to pebbles fining upward to silt to granules. Stripped area is well-sorted fine sand (krotovina?); soft; rootlets; contacts are abrupt and wavy; fluvial.

VIIb. Various colors; very poorly sorted silt to cobbles grading upward t silt to pebbles; small pebble mode; skewed negative; soft to loose; rootlets, krotovina; contacts are abrupt and wavy; fluvial.

VIII. 10YR5/3, Brown (D), 10YR4/3(M), brown to dark brown, poorly sorted coarse silt to granules with ca. 3% gravels to pebble size, medium sand mode, skewed negative; soft; massive; rootlets; contact with IV gradual and smooth, lower contact not exposed; fluvial.

IX. 10YR4/2.5(D) dark grayish brown to dark brown; poorly sorted, silt to pebbles, fine to medium sand mode, negatively skewed; slightly hard; massive; roots; lower contact not exposed; overbank deposits with some aeolian contribution.

Table 4. Artifacts and Samples Collected During the Testing of 26Wa2033.

Artifact Class	Count	Weight (grams)
Flaked Stone		
Debitage	396	534.5
Edge Modified Flake	3	8.3
Biface (fragment)	4	-
Projectile Point (fragment)	1	.2
Core	1	190.6
Ground Stone		
Fragments	6	5878.3
Mano	2	859.1
Bone (fragments)	4	10.8
Radiocarbon Samples	22	-

Table 5. Total Percentages of Debitage Material Type By Unit.

	5 X 5 Surface Collection				1 X 1 Surface Collection				Subsurface				Total	Material Total %							
	B	O	S	C	B	O	S	C	B	O	S	C		B	%	O	%	S	%	C	%
Unit 1	173	1	5	1	29	1	-	-	67	-	1	1	279	269	96.4	2	1	6	2	2	1
Unit 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	3	17	4	50	26	48	3	5	21	39	4	7
Unit 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	-	5	3	41	33	80	-	-	5	12	3	7
Unit 4	6	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	15	15	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
												TOTAL	385	343	89	5	1	32	8	9	2

		B	O	S	C
Auger 1		6	-	-	-
Auger 2		1	-	-	-
Auger 3		-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	7	-	-	-

	B	%	O	%	S	%	C	%
TOTAL FOR PROJECT	392	88	5	1	32	8	9	2

Key:
B Basalt
O Obsidian
S Sinter
C Chert

From the above totals, basalt clearly is the dominant material at 26Wa2033. However, it is interesting that all of the stone material types that were defined at the site have at least one representative on the surface.

UNIT EXCAVATIONS

Unit 1 was excavated to a maximum depth of 50 cm below the surface; artifacts were recovered to a depth of 40 cm below the surface (Table 5). Unit 2 was excavated to a depth of 130 cm below the surface; artifacts were found to a depth of 110 cm below the surface. Unit 3 was excavated to 140 cm below the surface; artifacts were found to 120 cm below the surface. Unit 4 was excavated to 50 cm below the surface and artifacts were found throughout.

No subsurface features were evident in any of the test units.

AUGER HOLES

A total of three auger holes were excavated into the stream terrace immediately south of Whites Creek. No cultural material was found in Auger Test 3. A single secondary basalt flake was found in Auger Test 2 at the 33 to 73 cm level below the surface. Auger Test 1 yielded six basalt secondary flakes; one between 40 and 58 cm below the surface, four between 58 and 78 cm below the surface and one more between 100 and 126 cm below the surface. No other cultural material was recovered with the auger tests.

ARTIFACTS

FLAKED STONE TOOLS

Projectile Points

One projectile point fragment was recovered from the site. This consisted of a single distal end of a sinter point. The fragment was insufficient for classification, although previous investigations of the site have recorded Martis Phase (Middle Archaic 2050 B.P.-A.D 450) and one Rosegate point (A.D. 450-A.D. 1150) (Pendleton, McLane, and Thomas 1982:Table 3).

Bifaces

Four biface fragments were recovered. These included one sinter medial fragment, one Stage I cryptocrystalline silicate (CCS) biface, a Stage I biface end fragment, and one obsidian biface/projectile point preform.

Flake Tools

Two edge-damaged basalt secondary flakes were recoverded. All appeared to be flaked as a result of use rather than by purposeful reduction.

DEBITAGE

Cores

A single basalt core was recovered. It is bifacially flaked.

Table 6. Vertical Distribution by Lithic Material Type

	Unit 1				Unit 2				Unit 3				Unit 4			
	B	O	S	C	B	O	S	C	B	O	S	C	B	O	S	C
Level 1	37	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Level 2	17	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Level 3	6	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	7	-	3	1	1	-	-	-
Level 4	7	-	-	-	7	2	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Level 5	-	-	-	-	6	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Level 6					4	-	4	2	2	-	-	-				
Level 7					-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-				
Level 8					3	-	1	-	4	-	-	1				
Level 9					2	-	-	2	2	-	-	-				
Level 10					1	-	-	-	6	-	-	-				
Level 11					1	-	-	-	3	-	1	-				
Level 12					-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-				
Level 13					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Level 14									-	-	-	-				
TOTAL	67	0	1	1	27	3	17	4	33	0	5	3	6	0	0	0

Key:

B	Basalt
O	Obsidian
S	Sinter
C	Chert

Debitage

A total of 396 pieces of debitage was recovered by ARS during the testing at 26Wa2033. The majority of the material is basalt (89 percent), followed in frequency by sinter (8 percent), CCS (2 percent), and obsidian (1 percent) (Table 5). More than four-fifths (82.8 percent) of the debitage is secondary flakes. Shatter is represented by 11.6 percent. Primary flakes account for 3.8 percent of the debitage, while the remaining 1.8 percent are tertiary flakes. The very low percentage of tertiary flakes may be due, in part, to the fact that all sediments were screened through 1/4 inch mesh rather than finer material.

Ground stone

Six ground stone fragments, probably pieces from the same artifact, were recovered. All were tabular and unifacially worked. They appear to have been thermally altered and, as a result, the ground surface is beginning to exfoliate.

Faunal Remains

Mammal bone was found at levels 4, 5, and 6 of Unit 2. The smallest of these was a burnt rabbit-sized bone. The two larger bones were both deer-sized and were not burnt. The taphonomic and depositional history of these bones is unclear; therefore, it is impossible to state with any certainty whether they are food remains or whether they are naturally deposited.

Historic Artifacts

The historic artifacts recovered at 26Wa2033 consisted of two types; square nails and a single coil or round wire. A total of 10 square nails or fragments thereof was recovered.

Radiocarbon Sample

One sample of carbonized remains was submitted T Beta Analytic for radiocarbon assay. A composite sample of carbon recovered from levels 6 and 7 (50-70 b.s.) of Unit 3 were selected. Combining the two levels proved necessary in order to yield enough material for accurate dating. This sample (Beta-26739) provided a date of 160 ± 70 B.P.

CONCLUSIONS

RELATIONSHIP TO RESEARCH DESIGN

As discussed earlier, the research design concerned the identification of subsurface features, the vertical distribution of cultural artifacts and any patterning that might be evident in that vertical distribution.
As a result of the limited testing done at 26Wa2033, no subsurface feature was evident from a visual inspection of unit profiles. However, if the sediments immediately adjacent to Whites Creek are secondarily deposited one would expect that cultural material contained within them would be more or less evenly distributed throughout. First, the distribution by weight of charcoal is random in both units. However, this material is not apparently cultural in

origin. A standard chi square test of the amount of debitage by count recovered by 10 cm level from units 2 and 3 shows that, at 30-40 cm below the surface, the amount of debitage recovered slightly exceeds two standard deviations. In other words, the amount of debitage occurring at 30-40 cm below the surface is greater than one would expect if that debitage were randomly deposited. This may be an indication of a subsurface feature that is unrecognizable visually. Rodent burrowing is moderate at this level in both units 2 and 3 and may account for this numerical increase. Unfortunately, the sample size for this project is too small to assert the presence of either a feature or a buried deposit.

Results from units 1 and 4 were equally as inconclusive. While both yielded subsurface cultural material, once below approximately 10 cm below the surface the totals of debitage dropped markedly. No subsurface feature was located in either unit.

CHRONOLOGY

A single radiocarbon sample from 26Wa2033 provides a date fixing the time of development of the river terrace immediately to the south of Whites Creek at 160 ± 70 years B.P. This radiocarbon sample was taken from a combination of screen-recovered carbon from both levels 6 and 7 of Unit 3. This is within modern times and indicates that deposits that incorporate the river terrace are probably washed down from both upstream and from the surrounding canyon walls. No time diagnostic artifacts were recovered from the alluvial fan that surrounds Whites Creek; however, previous investigations have described projectile points from the Martis phase indicating an antiquity dating from at least A.D. 450.

SITE FUNCTION, SETTLEMENT AND SUBSISTENCE

Limited conclusions are possible in regard to site function, settlement pattern and subsistence practices; the scope of the work for this investigation was limited to a very small portion of a large site.

26Wa2033 not only covers a large geographical area, but it also is located midway between the Truckee Meadows, the traditional wintering location of the Washoe, and the uplands, where the Washoe moved during the summer months. The presence of ground stone is indicative that this site was used for more than a casual stopping off place in the Washoe seasonal round. However, the exact function or functions to which site 26Wa2033 was put by the Washoe cannot be ascertained from the amount of data recovered from this study. Additional work focused on the larger site concerning surface distribution of artifacts, particularly tools, may provide information contributing to site function and settlement patterns. Also subsurface features may be present outside of the AT&T project area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Site 26Wa2033 has been determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Pursuant to regulations accompanying the National Historic Preservation Act, properties considered eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places are "historic properties" (36 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 800.2[D], effective October 1, 1986). Undertakings

that might alter the condition of historic properties are "effects" (36 CFR 800.9[a] and those that diminish the property's integrity are "adverse effects" (36CFR 800.9[b]). The proposed ground disturbing activities associated with the laying of the AT&T fiber optic cable will have an effect on 26Wa2033. Any construction activity that destroyssurface or subsurface features would be an adverse effect. No features, subsurface or surface were identified within the AT&T project corridor during this evaluation effort. Based on these results a determination of no adverse effect is recommended.

However, given the high probability that subsurface deposits and/or features may exist at 26Wa2033, including within the project area even though none were discovered during this phase of archaeological testing, it is recommended that an archaeologist be on hand during all phases of ground disturbing activities associated with the installation of the fiber optic cable, as recommended by the Nevada SHPO. Further, it is recommended that cable laying equipment and all other related equipment and vehicles remain within the limits of the proposed 40 ft right-of-way. It is recommended that BLM and SHPO consult prior to the onset of construction to develop a plan of action regarding unanticipated effects to site 26Wa2033.

There is concern for indirect effects on 26Wa2033. During construction and ensuing phases of operation, care should be taken to avoid all forms of surface disturbance on the site outside of the AT&T right-of-way. This includes, but is not limited to, the prohibition of vehicular traffic, artifact collection, the storage of material, or the dumping of materials. The surface remains include archaeological features that are easily disturbed; relocation of rocks or ground stone tools or the casual collection of artifacts would have negative consequences for future research that might be undertaken at the site.

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IMACS SITE FORM

PART A - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Intermountain Antiquities
Computer System

*1. State No: 26Wa2033 (revised August 2, 1988)
*2. Agency No:
3. Temp. No:

4. State: Nevada County: Washoe

5. Project: AT&T Fiber Optic LIne (ARS # 504)
* 6. Report No:

7. Site Name: Whites Creek

8. Class: Prehistoric

9. Site Type: Lithic scatter

*10. Elevation: 5150 ft
*11. UTM Grid Zone: 11 256995 m E 4363500 m N (Refer to Figure 2)
257040 4362940
260080 4364595
260160 4363700

*12. NW 1/4 NW 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 36 T.18N R.19E
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 NW 1/4 Section 35 T.18N R.19E
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 NW 1/4
NE 1/4 SE 1/4 NW 1/4
NW 1/4 SE 1/4 NW 1/4
NW 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4
NE 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 NE 1/4
NW 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4
NE 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4
SW 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4
SE 1/4 NW 1/4 NE 1/4
NW 1/4 SW 1/4 NE 1/4
NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 25 T.18N R.19E
SW 1/4 SE 1/4 SW 1/4
SE 1/4 SE 1/4 NE 1/4
NE 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4
NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4
NE 1/4 NE 1/4 SE 1/4
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SE 1/4
NW 1/4 NW 1/4 SW 1/4 Section 30 T.18N R.20E
SW 1/4 NW 1/4 SW 1/4
NW 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4
SW 1/4 SW 1/4 NW 1/4
*13. Meridian: Mt. Diablo
*14. Map Reference: Mt. Rose, NE, Nevada 7.5' 1969
15. Aerial Photo:
16. Location and Access: From the intersection of U. S. Highway 395 and Mt. Rose Highway (State Highway 431), go west ca. 2.5 mi. Access is by a light duty road exiting north from Mt. Rose Highway (ca. .25 mi).

* Encoded data items.

Page 1 (continued)

*17. Land Owner: Samuel S. Gaksk State No.: 26Wa2033 (revised August 2, 1988)
*18. Fed. Admin. Units: Carson City (BF) District:
*19. Planning Units (USFS only):
20. Site Description: The site consists of four concentrations of dense lithic debitage following Whites Creek. Lithic material includes fine grained basalt, sinter (both from nearby Steamboat quarry site), CCS and obsidian, concentrations of ground stone are evident (some are fire altered), square cut nails were found to a depth of 60 cm on a small stream terrace to the immediate south of Whites Creek. Maximum depth for lithic is 120 cm bs (in same location). Further investigation will probably show that all four concentrations are "connected" by a very sparse lithic scatter.

*21. Site Condition (A-excellent, B-good, C-fair, D-poor): a-excellent
*22. Impact Agents: Artifact hunters, grazing, erosion, construction activity.
*23. Nat. Register Status (C-significant, D-non-significant, Z-unevaluated [USFS only]:) C-significant
Justify: The site has been deemed eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places by BLM and SHPO.

24. Photos:
25. Recorded by: P. Green
*26. Survey Organization: Archaeological Research Services (AR)
27. Assisting Crew Members: T. Burke, L. Hause, A. McCabe, S. Davis
*28. Survey Date: 6/29-7/1 1988

* Encoded data items.

PART A - ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

Temp Site No:
State No.: (revised August 2, 1988)

*29. Slope: complex (degrees) Aspect (degrees)
*30. Distance to Permanent Water: 1 X 100 meters
Type of Water Source (A-spring/seep, B-stream/river, C-lake, D-other): B-Stream/River
Name of Water Source: Whites Creek
Distance to Nearest Other Water Source/Type: Washoe Lake

*31. Geographic Unit: Eagle Valley (BNE)

*32. Topographic Location:
Primary Landform: Valley (E) Secondary Landform: Allvuial fan (A)
Primary Position: Edge (B) Secondary Position: Slope (C)

Describe: The site sits on a bisected alluvial fan which is cut by Whites Creek in an E-W direction. Fan eminates in Mt. Rose to the west and terminates in the Truckee Meadow.

*33. On-site Depositional Context: A-fan
Description of Soil: 10YR4.5/2(D) grayish brown to dark brayish brown. Poorly sorted silt to gravel matrix with ca. 5% exposed gravels to boulder size.

*34. a. Life Zone: Upper Sonoran b. Community: Tall Sagebrush

Describe: The area is sparsely vegetated except along Whites Creek. Grazing is evident and may be a contributing factor to the paucity of species. A raparian environment is along Whites Creek. Vegetation increases upslope.

*35. Miscellaneous Text:

36. Comments/Continuations: Basalt porphyry, which accounts for over 85% of lithic materials at the site has previously been reported to have had it's source in the Lake Range County near Pyramid Lake (H. Bonham 1976), however it is more likely that both the basalt and sinter found at the site are derived from the Steamboat Quarry site located less than 2 mi to the east. This site form is a composite of previously completed site forms and the latest testing.

* Encoded data items.

PART B - PREHISTORIC SITES

Site No: 26Wa2033 (revised August 2, 1988)

1. Site Type: Lithic scatter
* 2. Culture:
Affiliation: Martis projectile point Dating: Lithic cross dating
Affiliation: Rosegate projectile point Dating: Lithic cross dating
3. Site Dimensions: Area: over 100,000 sq m
* 4. Surface Collection/Method (A-none, B-grab sample, C-design sample, D-complete collection): C-design sample
Sampling Method: 4 5 x 5 m surface collection units

* 5. Estimated Depth of Fill (A-surface, B-0-20 cm, C-20-100 cm, D-100 cm+, E-fill noted but unknown): 20-100 cm

How estimated: Test pits
* 6. Excavation Status (A-excavated, B-tested, C-unexcavated): A-excavated
* 7. Summary of Artifacts and Debris: Lithic scatter (LS), organic remains (VR), burned stone (BS), ground stone (GS)
Describe: Two rabbit sized and 2 deer sized food bone fragments (VR), six metate fragments (thermally altered) (BS/GS), probably from the same artifact, also one, one sided mano, and lithic scatter (LS) containing predominately basalt secondary flakes with sinter, CCS and obsidian flakes.

* 8. Lithic Tools:

No.	Type	No.	Type
2	Biface fragments (sinter)		
1	Biface preform (obsidian)		
1	Projectile Point ear/tang (CCS)		

Describe: One biface medial fragment (sinter-140 g), one CCS Stage I biface end fragment (14.5 g), one sinter projectile point fragment tang or ear (2 g), and one obsidian biface projectile point preform (7.1 g).

* 9. Lithic Debitage (Estimated quantity A-none, B-1-9, C-10-25, D-25-100, E-100-500, F-500+): 500+
Material Type: Basalt, sinter, CCS, obsidian
Flaking Stages: (0) Not Present (1) Rare (2) Common (3) Dominant
Decortication 2 Secondary 3 Tertiary 1 Shatter 2 Core 1
10. Maximum Density - #/Sq m (all lithics): 30+ sq m

11. Ceramic Artifacts:

No.	Type	No.	Type

Describe:

12. Maximum Density - #/sq m (all ceramics):
13. Non-Architectural Features (locate on site map):
Describe:

*14. Architectural Features (locate on site map):

No.	Material	Type	No.	Material	Type

15. Comments/Continuation:

* Encoded data items.

PART C - HISTORIC SITES

Site No. 26Wa2033 (revised August 2, 1988)

1. Site Type: Lithic scatter

*2. Historic Theme(s):

*3. Culture:
Affiliation: Martis Projectilt Point Dating:
Affiliation: Rosegate Projectile Point Dating:

*4. Oldest Date: A. D. 450 Recent Date: 160 ± years B. P.
How Determined?: Diagnostic projectile points and carbon date

5. Site Dimensions: m x m *Area: over 100,000 sq m

*6. Surface Collection/Method: (A-None, B-Grab sample, C-Designed sample, D-Complete collection): C-designed sample

*7. Estimated depth of fill: A-surface, B-0-20 cm, C-20-100 cm, D-100 cm +, E-fill noted but unknown): D-100 cm

*8. Excavation Status: A-Excavated, B-Tested, C-Unexcavated): A-excavated
Testing Method: 4 1 x 1 m test excavation units.

*9. Summary of Artifacts and Debris: Nails (NC)

Describe: Four square cut nails and six square nail fragments were found during testing maximum depth 60 cm. All nails were found on a small terrace immediately to the south of Whites Creek along the right-of-way.

10. Ceramic Artifacts:

Paste	Glaze	Decoration	Pattern	Vessel Form	No.	Trademarks

Describe:

*11. Glass

Quantity	Manufacture	Color	Function	Trademarks	Decoration

Describe:

12. Maximum Density-#/sq m (glass and ceramics):

13. Non-Architectural Features (locate on site map):

Describe:

14. Architectural Features (locate on site map):

Quantity	Material	Type

Describe:

15. Comments/Continuations:

* Encoded data items.

1987

IMACS ENCODING FORM

To be completed for each site form.
For Instructions and codes, see IMACS Users Guide.

Encoder's Name ____________________

Temporary Site No. ____________________

A

1 26 - WA - 002033 State Site Number

2 ___ - ______ Agency Site Number

6 ______ Agency Report Number

10 05400 Elevation

11

Zone	Easting	Northing
	256995	4363500
	257040	4362940
	260080	4364595
	260160	4363700

12

1/4	1/4	1/4	Sec.	T.		R.	
NW	NW	NW	26	18		19	E
SE	NE	NW	35	18		19	E
NW	SE	SW	25	18		19	E
NW	NW	SW	30	18		20	E

13 7 Merid.

14 MT ROSE NE NV 751969 USGS Map

17 PR Owner

18 BF ___ Fed. Admin. Units

19 ___ Mgmt. Unit

21 A Cond.

22 GR PR VA Impacts

23 A N.R.

26 AR Organ.

28 07 - 01 - 88 Survey Date

29 98 Slope ___ Aspect

30 001 B Water: distance/type

31 BNE Geog. Unit

32 EB AC Location: 1st 2nd

33 A Dep.

34 E PPP Vegetation 1 2 3

35 ______ Misc. Text

B

2 ZZA ___ Culture/Dating Method

3 99998 Area

4 C Collect

5 D Depth

6 B Excav. Status

7 1 LG 1 GS ___ ___ ___ ___ Artifacts: #/type

8 Lithic Tools: #/type

1	CX	1	UA
1	DC	1	NE
1	HZ	1	1G

9 F # 2 3 1 2 1 Flaking Stages

11 ___ ___ ___ Ceramics: #/type

13 ___ ___ ___ Features: #/type

14 ___ ___ ___ Architecture: #/material/type

C

2 ZZ ___ Historic Themes

3 ___ ___ Cultures / Dating Method

4 1920 1980 Dates

5 99998 Area

6 C Collect.

7 D Depth

8 B Excav. Status

9 Artifacts: #/type

9	TZ	9	GL		
L	TD	6	CK		
9	CE	6	NC		

10 Ceramics: paste/glaze/decoration/pattern/form/#

Z	Z	Z	Z	T	U						
Z	Z	Z	Z	A	N						
Z	Z	Z	Z	H	1						

Z # Trademarks

11 Glass: #/mnft./color/func./trdmrk/dec.

C	Z	A	Z	Z	Z	B	Z	O	U	Z	Z
1	Z	J	G	Z	Z	B	Z	D	Z	Z	Z

13 1 RN ___ ___ Features: #/type

14 ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ Architecture: #/material/type

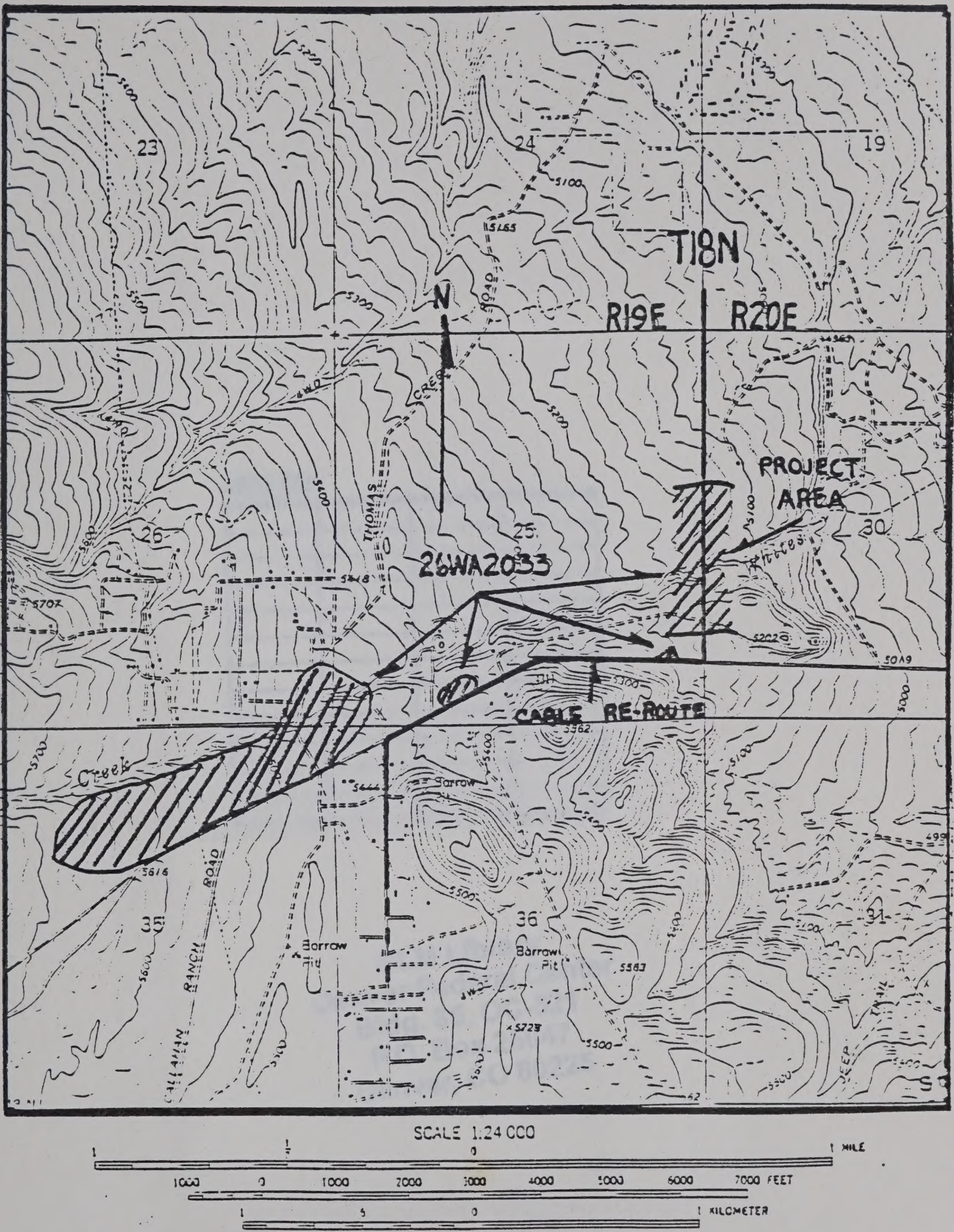

Figure 2. Site Location Map. Taken from Mt. Rose NE, Nevada 7.5' USGS map. Showing relationship of cable re-route to site 26WA2033.

DATE DUE

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